

- The DNA sequence according to claim 4, wherein the gene coding for a 5. polypeptide of interest is selected from the group consisting of genes coding for dextransucrase, glycosyltransferase, phytase, transglutaminase, peptidase, phenylalanine ammonia lyase, protease, cell surface antigens, bacteriocins, hormones and insulin.
- The DNA sequence according to claim 1, which is devoid of catabolite responsive 6. elements.
 - 8. A recombinant microorganism harboring a DNA sequence represented by a

formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$p/o - (A)_n - R_y$$
, and

$$p/o - R_y - (A)_n$$

wherein

p/o denotes the DNA sequence identified under SEQ ID No. 9, which retains its capability to bind to the lac repressor protein of Lacionacillus delbrueckii;

A denotes a heterologous gene coding for a polypeptide of interest,

n denotes an integer of ≥ 0 ;

R denotes a gene coding for the lac repressor protein as identified under SEQ ID No. 2; and Y is 0 or 1.

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- 10. The microorganism according to claim 8, which is selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacteria.
- The microorganism according to claim 8, wherein the DNA sequence is 11. incorporated into the bacteria's chromosome.
- 12. The microorganism according to claim 8, which is selected from the group consisting of CNCM I-2089, CNCM I-2090 and CNCM I-2091.
- A method of producing a polypeptide comprising the steps of using a DNA 13. sequence represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$p/o - (A)_n - R_y$$
, and $p/o - R_y - (A)_n$

$$p/o - R_y - (A)_n$$

wherein

p/o denotes the DNA sequence dentified under SEQ ID No. 9, which retains its capability to bind to the lac repressor protein of Vactobacillus delbrueckii;

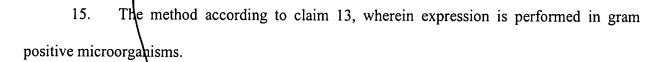
A denotes a heterologous gene coding/for a polypeptide of interest,

n denotes an integer of ≥ 0 ;

R denotes a gene coding for the lac repressor protein as identified under SEQ ID No. 2; and Y is 0 or 1 for the production of a polypeptide A.

The method according to claim 13, wherein the DNA sequence is harbored in a 14. plasmid maintained extra-chromosomal.

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- 16. The method according to claim 13, wherein expression is performed in microorganisms selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacteria.
- 17. A method for the production of food products comprising the steps of using a microorganism having a DNA sequence represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$p/o - (A)_n - R_y$$
, and $p/o - R_y - (A)_n$

wherein

p/o denotes the DNA sequence identified under SEQ ID No. 9, which retains its capability to bind to the lac repressor protein of tactobacillus delbrueckii;

A denotes a heterologous gene coding for a polypeptide of interest,

n denotes an integer of ≥ 0 ;

R denotes a gene coding for the lac repressor protein as identified under SEQ ID No. 2; and

Y is 0 or 1.

Please add newly-submitted Claims 18-19 as follows:

The mick-organism according to claim 8, wherein the DNA sequence is harbored in a plasmid maintained extra-chromosomal.

